

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 07802 262344Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 EB-08 OIC-02
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8056
USMISSION GENEVA NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 07802

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CORRECTING OMISSION OF TEXT PARA 1)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, BQG
SUBJECT: GDR STATEMENT ON BERLIN WATERWAYS AT ECE
WORKING PARTY ON INLAND NAVIGATION

REF: (A) (77) STATE 60592, (B) (77) BONN 4624
(C) CHESTER/WHITLOCK TELCON

1. THE FRG FOREIGN OFFICE WAS INFORMED ON APRIL 26
THAT IN GENEVA THE GDR HAS MADE A STATEMENT ON BERLIN
WATERWAYS AT THE ECE WORKING PARTY MEETING ON THE RULES
OF THE ROAD, SIGNS AND SIGNALS OF INLAND NAVIGATION.
THE STATEMENT IS AS FOLLOWS:

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BEGIN TEXT

JUST BEFORE OUR MEETING SEVERAL DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN
DISTRIBUTED FOR OUR INFORMATION. THE PERUSAL OF THSE
DOCUMENTS SHOWS THAT IN DOCUMENT TRANS-SC3-GE.2-R45-
ADDENDUM 2 DATA CONCERNING BERLIN (WEST) HAVE BEEN
PUBLISHED. THIS IS IN CONTRADICTION TO THE LEGAL

STATUS OF WATERWAYS IN BERLIN (WEST).

THEREFORE I FEEL OBLIGED TO STATE THAT I AM UNABLE TO RECOGNIZE THIS PART OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED PAPER AS AN OFFICIAL DOCUMENT OF THE ECE. I AM INSTRUCTED TO STATE THAT THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO TAKE FURTHER STEPS TO ENSURE RESPECT OF THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE WATERWAYS IN BERLIN (WEST). I ASK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN, TO ENSURE THAT THIS STATEMENT IS TRULY REFLECTED IN THE REPORT ON THIS MEETING. END TEXT.

2. OF THE ALLIES, ONLY THE FRENCH ARE REPRESENTED AT THE MEETING AND A REPLY, IF IT IS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE REPORT OF THE MEETING, MUST BE DELIVERED NO LATER THAN APRIL 27. THE BONN GROUP HAS CONSIDERED THE MATTER AND, SUBJECT TO FINAL COORDINATION, RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING REPLY:

THE CLAIM OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC THAT IT IS COMPETENT FOR THE WATERWAYS IN THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN IS INCORRECT. IN THE EARLY POST-WAR PERIOD IT WAS DECIDED AMONG SECTOR COMMANDANTS THAT GERMAN TECHNICAL AGENCIES SITUATED IN THE EASTERN SECTOR OF BERLIN WOULD EXERCISE LIMITED OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF SOME OF THE WATERWAYS IN THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN. THIS ARRANGEMENT CONFIDENTIAL

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IN NO WAY CONFERRED ANY FORM OF SOVEREIGNTY OR JURISDICTION OVER ANY OF THE WATERWAYS, CANALS AND LOCKS LOCATED IN THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN.

MOREOVER, THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC IS NOT A PARTY TO THE WARTIME AND POST-WAR FOUR POWER AGREEMENTS ON GERMANY AND BERLIN NOR TO THE QUADRI-PARTITE AGREEMENT WHICH WAS CONCLUDED IN BERLIN ON 3 SEPTEMBER 1971 BY THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC, THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. THE GDR IS NOT, THEREFORE, COMPETENT TO COMMENT AUTHORITATIVELY ON THOSE AGREEMENTS. END TEXT.

3. THE DEPARTMENT WILL NOTE THAT THIS TEXT IS TAKEN FROM THE ALLIED RESPONSE TO THE GDR STATEMENT IN ACCEDING TO THE CONVENTION RELATING TO UNIFICATION OF CERTAIN RULES CONCERNING COLLISIONS IN INLAND NAVIGATION (REF B), WHICH WAS APPROVED BY REF A.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: NOTIFICATION (TO BONN AND GENEVA)

BY OPENING OF BUSINESS APRIL 27 OF ANY OBJECTION TO THE
FOREGOING REPLY TO THE GDR STATEMENT.
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Message Attributes

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